

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 12, 2003

Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Senate Finance Committee
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

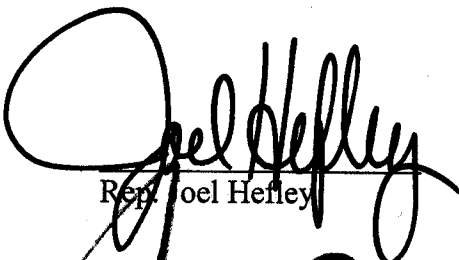
Honorable William M. Thomas
Chairman
House Ways and Means Committee
1002 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Grassley and Thomas:

We are writing today to commend both of you for your leadership in advancing both the "CARE Act of 2003" (S.476) and the "Charitable Giving Act of 2003" (H.R. 7). Specifically, we are writing to express our support for sections 106 and 107 of S. 476.

These tax reductions will do a great deal towards providing voluntary tools for private landowners. As recognized within each of President Bush's budgets, these tools will enable private landowners to utilize market-based opportunities while providing for conservation. Far too often, working farmers and ranchers are given a choice between selling to a developer and going bankrupt. These tax reductions provide these private landowners with another option that allows them to stay in agriculture while remaining in control of their own destiny.

We appreciate that some concerns have been raised regarding property rights. We hope to work with you to address these concerns and ensure that the benefits of these provisions are provided to private landowners and included within the final bill.



Rep. Joel Hefley



Rep. Sherwood Boehlert

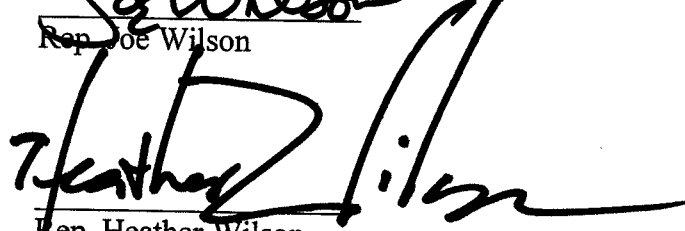


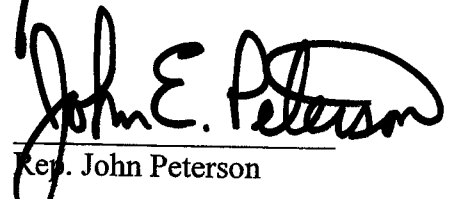
Rep. Bill Shuster



Rep. Richard Burr


Rep. Joe Wilson

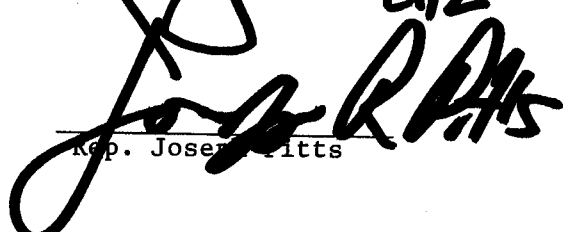

Rep. Heather Wilson

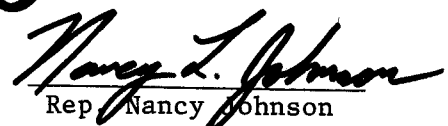

Rep. John Peterson


Rep. Wayne Gilchrest

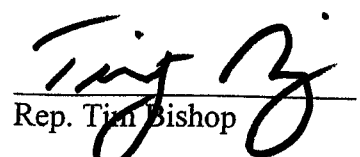

Rep. Michael Burgess

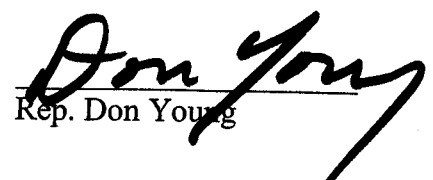

Rep. Rob Simmons


Rep. Joseph Pitts

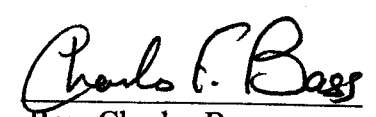

Rep. Nancy Johnson

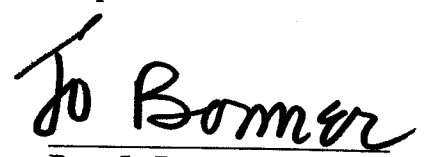

Rep. Virgil Goode, Jr.


Rep. Tim Bishop

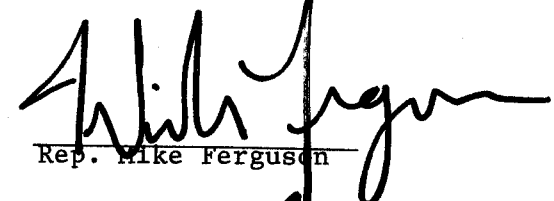

Rep. Don Young



Rep. Shelley Moore Capito


Rep. Charles Bass


Rep. Jo Bonner

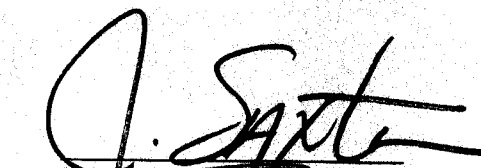

Rep. Scott McInnis

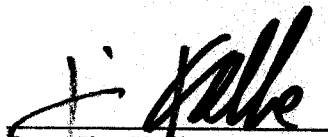

Rep. Mike Ferguson



Rep. Ken Calvert

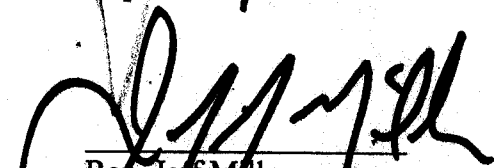

Rep. Christopher Shays

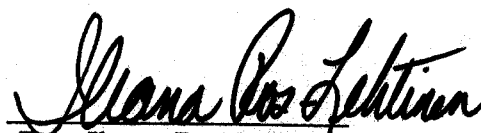

Rep. Doug Bereuter

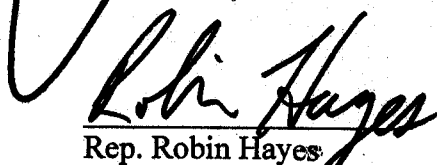

Rep. Jim Saxton


Rep. Jim Kolbe


Rep. Vernon Ehlers


Rep. Jeff Miller


Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen


Rep. Robin Hayes